Flyn

9/18/67

Dear Mr. Bernabei,

No inadvertent, not stumbling, but all in the fourth of my books, on New Orleans, completed early April but delayed as you will see in it. The Farry was Ferrie, and that was accidental.

However, Weisman has nothing to do with it. Neither has Tulsne.

You'll findall about Ferrie's and Oswald's anti-Castro connections in this book. I know Ferrie threatened the President's life.

The FBI more than knew, as also you will see.

Wish I had time for more. Just finished rough draft of fufth of WHITEWASH series. No more Dell contracts.

I appreciate your taking the time to write. Your hunches are good.

Dell forwarded your letter. It reached me with neither stamp nor postmark, as the envelope enclosed shows. That's pretty good, when you consider all my mail that doesn t go or come and is somterribly delayed, like the ms of that book!

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

WHITEWASH II : THE FBI-SECRET SERVICE COVER-UP (Dell #9522)

one named "Heedell". The name is spelled "Hydell". This is exactly how the real man of that name, Oswald's former Marine Corps colleague, John Rene Heindel, whose nickname it was, said it was pronounced, to rhyme with "Rydell" (p. 38).

In the midst of this and the inquiries about Oswald's attitudes (p. 39), there appears this exchange, to which no names are attributed:

> NOTE: Mrs. Oswald asked if this was the end, she was tired.
>
> Agent: We are coming close to the end. We will finish in a few minutes.

On a half-dozen occasions the question of Oswald shooting President Kennedy was raised. In consistent answers, Marina maintained that her husband considered "Kennedy was a good president". She departed from this position throughout her numerous appearances before the Commission, but under Senatorial questioning at that strange hearing at the Dallas Naval Air Station on September 6 she returned to it. The authors of the Report found her other opinion preferable, but here she insisted that "if he did any shooting that he was not shooting at President Kennedy" (p. 43).

During this lengthy interrogation, she was not asked about her correspondence with the Soviet Embassy. Despite her fatigue at the end (p. 44), she volunteered this: When her husband was having difficulty holding a job, with one child and expecting another, she had earlier written the Soviet Embassy requesting that the entire family be permitted to return to the Soviet Union. "Now that her husband is dead, she does not want to leave this country, she wants to stay here with her children . . . She has no mother or father."

The session had apparently ended. Then this note, attributed to no one, appears: "Due to further information having been phoned from Washington to Inspector Kelley we have more questions to be asked Mrs. Oswald. We will continue." The questions phoned from Washington in such great excitement were, did she know or know of a Leonard Reisman at Tulane University; The Committee for Peaceful Alternatives; or "a Mr. Farry"? Her answers were negative.

Located in New Orleans

Ferry?

The emphasis here is consistent with that of the interrogating agents about Oswald's attendance at a Dallas American Civil Liberties Union meeting with Michael Paine, the then estranged husband of Ruth Paine, as though it were involved in some way in some sort of conspiratorial combination to assassinate the President. The only other similar questions relate to Cuba.

On not a single point made essential by the use to which Marina's testimony was put in the Report does this immediate, if brutal, interrogation give the government comfort or assistance. Before she had a chance to think things over, while staggering from the additional blow of her husband's murder that very day, she gave information opposed to what the Commission wanted of her and later got.

Under pressure, her story changed until it was consistent with the prefabricated conclusions of the Report.

The special nine-page report of Secret Service Agent Leon Gopadze, dated in Dallas November 29, 1963, picks up the narrative. This report bears the numbers of files 79 (where it is Document 319) and 1792 (which does not exist). His synopsis of it says it "relates to" his listening to the tape and his subsequent personal interview with Marina. It covers the three days beginning the 26th.

Gopadze, "per Chief's orders", went to Washington the 26th, arranged to have the tape transcribed and described Gregory's translation as "faultless" and "without deviation".

"It also appeared that Mr. Gregory had a complete confidence of Marina (sic) and she was answering to the best of her ability."

Gopadze had also gone *to* Dallas the same day, "as instructed by Chief", accompanied by Secret Service Agent Max Phillips, "for the purpose of personal interview with Marina Oswald". There Inspector Kelley told him the FBI wanted him to act as interpreter in their proposed interview with Marina that day.

Charles T. Brown and James P. Hosty, Jr., were the FBI agents. Hosty was the FBI's "Oswald" expert. Several days earlier he disappeared from the police interrogations of Oswald after the accused assassin charged him with abusing Marina. The three agents agreed that Gopadze "would represent himself as a Government agent without disclosing his true name or his official capacity".

PSS. I am sending a copy of this to Mark Lane

Harold Weisberg
c/o Dell Publishing Co., Inc.
750 Third Ave.
NY, NY.

2 September 1967

Mr. Weisberg—

Inadvertantly you may have stumbled on information which indicates that the FBI knew about individuals and events connected with the alleged conspiracy that District Attorney Jim Garrison is investigating in New Orleans.

Review your material on the paragraph that I have marked, and consider the following:

1) Tulane University is located in New Orleans
2) "Mr. Farry" may refer to David Ferry who "committed suicide" when Garrison claimed that Ferry was connected with a group of anti-Castro Cubans who plotted the assassination of JFK.
3) The "similar questions" which "relate to Cuba" may also indicate FBI knowledge of the alleged New Orleans plot.

Yours for the TRUTH,

Richard Bernabei

RICHARD BERNABEI
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CANADA

P.S. Even though you may not wish to comment on this note, I desire that as soon as possible you should acknowledge that you received it.